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PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Report from Manila—Condition of plague.

MANILA, P. I., September 5, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that plague showed a decrease during the week ended August 31, 1901, there being reported in Manila during that period 5 cases and 4 deaths—Chinese, 3, and Filipinos, 2. The total number of deaths during that week was 167.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKEY.

Report from Constantinople—Plague in that city.

[Report No. 264.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, TURKEY, September 22, 1901.

SIR: Since last April the capital of the Ottoman Empire has entertained that frightful disease known as bubonic plague. That does not prevent many people from disbelieving in its presence. Is it since last April that bubonic plague has made its appearance here? I think that before that date more than one patient presenting fever more or less high and enlargement of the ganglia were attended by physicians of our town who could not make a diagnosis of said cases. Were they bubonic plague cases? I do not want to state it, but I must remember that on August 20, 1900, at the arrival of the steamship *Niger*, of the Messageries Maritimes, 1 bubonic plague case was ascertained (2 Rep., No. 252, August 24, 1900). That death in the harbor of Trieste occurred November 4, 1899, on board the Ottoman liner *Polis Mitilini* is already known by my report sub. No. 233 of November 16, 1899. It does not seem to be very astonishing if, after such facts, bubonic plague makes its appearance in Constantinople, where, as anywhere else, people not undergoing regular quarantine can come freely without giving any suspicion of contamination. I must state, though, that the local authorities, following the example of the sovereign, have shown much willingness in taking the necessary steps in order to prevent the appearance of the disease here. Unhappily, said steps have proved unsuccessful. I will say later on the reason of this failure.

I will explain first of all the outbreak of plague in Constantinople, giving a very short description of the 20 plague cases occurred, and, secondly, I will speak about the sanitary or police steps taken in order to check, and if possible to stifle, the disease before it becomes epidemic.

Outbreak of plague.

It was April 27 last, that a man, aged 36, employee in a macaroni factory in which he used to live, fell ill. Said factory is situated in the quarter of Galata, not far from the harbor. The disease was of a very mild character. In the beginning of the illness the temperature of the patient rose to 40° C., after having had light chills, but on the following days the fever did not exceed 37.5° C. In the first day the number of the heart beats was 135, on the following days it was not more than 106. There was no nausea, the tongue furred, no lesion whatever in the skin,